

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1           1.     A method for providing personalized time-shifted media programming  
2 comprising:  
3           retrieving digital media content from a library;  
4           storing in the media content for subsequent playback; and  
5           storing a subset of the media content in a playback device, wherein the subset of  
6 media content is automatically selected to update consumed media content according to a  
7 user's predetermined specifications.

1           2.     The method of claim 1, wherein the step of storing a subset of the media  
2 content comprises automatically storing a most recent segment of a dynamically  
3 changing particular audio content.

1           3.     The method of claim 2 wherein the segment is selectable by the user.

1           4.     The method of claim 1 wherein the step of storing a subset of the media  
2 content further comprises the steps of:  
3           determining a selected segment length;  
4           determining a selected particular media content; and  
5           storing a segment of the selected particular media content in the playback device  
6 having a length of the selected segment length.

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1           8.       The method of claim 1, wherein the step of storing a subset of the media  
2 content further comprises the steps of:  
3           selecting a segment of the media content;  
4           storing a portion of the media content in a playback device;  
5           determining an amount of the portion of the media content consumed, if any; and  
6           storing a subsequent portion of the media content corresponding to the amount of  
7 the portion of media content consumed in the playback device.

1           9.     An apparatus for providing personalized time-shifted programming  
2 comprising:  
3           means for retrieving digital content from a library;  
4           means for storing in the content for subsequent playback; and  
5           means for storing a subset of the media content in a playback device, wherein the  
6 subset of media content is automatically selected to update consumed media content  
7 according to a user's predetermined specifications.

1           10.    The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for storing a subset of the  
2 content comprises means for automatically storing a most recent segment of a  
3 dynamically changing particular content.

1           11.    The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the segment is selectable by the user.

1           12.    The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the step of storing a subset of the  
2 content further comprises:  
3           means for determining a selected segment length;  
4           means for determining a selected particular content; and  
5           means for storing a segment of the selected particular content in the playback  
6 device having a length of the selected segment length.

1           13.    The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for storing a subset of the  
2 content comprises means for automatically storing a most recent episode in a series of

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3 episodes.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for storing a subset of the  
2 content further comprises:

3 means for determining an program having a series of episodes;

4 means for retrieving a most recent episode in the series of episodes; and

5 means for storing the most recent episode in a playback device.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for storing a subset of the  
2 content comprises means for automatically storing a most recent segment in a static  
3 content.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for storing a subset of the  
2 content further comprises:

3 means for selecting a static content;

4 means for storing a portion of the static content in a playback device;

5 means for determining an amount of the portion of the static content consumed, if

6 any; and

7 means for storing a subsequent portion of the static content corresponding to the

8 amount of the portion of static content consumed in the playback device.

1 17. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of  
2 sequences of instructions including sequences of instructions which, when executed by a

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3 processor, cause the processor to:  
4 retrieve digital media content from a library;  
5 store the media content for subsequent playback; and  
6 store a subset of the media content in a playback device, wherein the subset of  
7 media content is automatically selected to provide media content according to a user's  
8 predetermined specifications.

1 18. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the sequence of  
2 instructions to store a subset of the media content further cause the processor to  
3 automatically store a most recent segment of a dynamically changing particular media  
4 content.

1 19. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the sequence of  
2 instructions to store a subset of the media content further cause the processor to:  
3 determine a selected segment length;  
4 determine a selected particular media content; and  
5 store a segment of the selected particular media content in the playback device  
6 having a length of the selected segment length.

1 20. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the sequence of  
2 instructions to store a subset of the media content further cause the processor to  
3 automatically store a most recent episode in a series of episodes.

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1           21.    The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the sequence of  
2 instructions to store a subset of the media content further cause the processor to:  
3           determine an media program having a series of episodes;  
4           retrieve a most recent episode in the series of episodes; and  
5           store the most recent episode in a playback device.

1           22.    The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the sequence of  
2 instructions to store a subset of the media content further cause the processor to  
3 automatically store a most recent segment in a static media content.

1           23.    The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the sequence of  
2 instructions to store a subset of the media content further cause the processor to:  
3           select a static media content;  
4           store a portion of the static media content in a playback device;  
5           determining an amount of the portion of the static media content consumed, if any; and  
6           store a subsequent portion of the static media content corresponding to the amount  
7 of the portion of static media content consumed in the playback device.

1           24.    An apparatus for providing personalized time-shifted programming  
2 comprising:  
3           a library access device that provides access to a library;  
4           a storage device coupled to the library access device that stores content retrieved  
5 from the library; and

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6 a playback device having a memory and an interface coupled to the storage  
7 device;

8 wherein the playback device stores a selected content that is a subset of the  
9 content stored by the storage device, and further wherein the selected content is  
10 determined automatically based on predetermined user content selections.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the library access device is a personal  
2 computer.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the library access device is an Internet  
2 terminal.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the library access device is a dedicated  
2 audio library access device.

1 28. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the storage device is a magnetic disk.

1 29. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the storage device is an optical disc.

1 30. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the storage device is a flash memory.

1 31. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the playback device memory  
2 comprises flash memory.

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